

Congressman Blumenauer released the following statement following President Obama's 2013 State of the Union address:

President Obama's State of the Union speech dealt with critical issues that we, as a nation must address to secure our future. He, and we all, must deal with the issues of climate change, gun control, and immigration reform in this Congress and not let opportunity pass us by. I strongly support the President's call to create jobs and grow our economy by renewing and rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure and investing in clean energy manufacturing that will keep us competitive on the global market.

Along with progress in these areas, we can right our fiscal ship by making smart cuts to wasteful programs such as our outdated nuclear weapons program, [ending tax subsidies to big oil companies](#), and eliminating direct payments to large agribusiness. At the same time, we should explore new revenue sources. The 113<sup>th</sup> Congress

does not have to be like the 112<sup>th</sup>

– we can make rational, commonsense progress on the many important issues that affect all Americans. While it's probably impossible for this Congress to be as bad as the last, we must commit to making sure that's the case.